

Mr. Speaker, please, I urge Members to join me. Help end this tragedy. We cannot stand idly by while American children are being kidnapped and held by foreign governments, even if they are our friends. Bring our children home.

COMMENDING THE GIRL SCOUTS ON THEIR 90TH ANNIVERSARY

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in recognition of the 90th anniversary of the Girl Scouts, an organization that has empowered girls to reach their full potential through partnerships with caring adults.

Since 1948, the Girl Scout Council of the Congaree Area of South Carolina has served girls from age 5 through 17 in Lancaster, Lexington, Sumter, Fairfield, Newberry, Richland, Saluda and Kershaw Counties, along with the city of Great Falls. With the dedicated leadership of President Ann Addy and Executive Director Pamela Hyland, the Congaree Area Council today boasts a membership of nearly 10,000. Nationally, the organization has grown to 3.6 million Girl Scouts, part of a worldwide family of 10 million in 140 countries.

The key to the success of the Girl Scouts is very simple: they have stressed the values that every person should strive to uphold. These values include integrity, respect, inclusiveness and responsibility to the community. Through the Scouts, girls learn that to realize true satisfaction in life a person must grow in mind, body and spirit.

IMPORTANCE OF MEN'S HEALTH WEEK

(Mr. DAVIS of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, on yesterday I attended an event in Chicago, Illinois, that the Near North Health Corporation used to kick off Men's Health Week; and it was a very interesting event, because there were a number of high-profile men who spoke of their illnesses. But they also spoke of the fact that for many years they never went to see a doctor. They had no idea that they may have been experiencing the difficulty.

So their message was a very simple one, that if you are a man, like all other people, you really need to see your doctor. You need to check on your health. You need to make sure you get rid of the macho image that nothing can happen to you.

So I would just extend their message to all men throughout America: check on your health. This is Men's Health Week. You start with yourself.

SUPPORTING CREATION OF HOMELAND SECURITY DEPARTMENT

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, "turf," as everyone knows, is sacred in Washington, D.C., and the favorite parlor game in Washington D.C. is turf war. Every Member of Congress, every committee and agency fights hard to maintain their turf; and I am concerned that turf battles may impede what is best for our Nation.

This morning, I testified in support of H.R. 4660, a bipartisan bill to create a Secretary of Homeland Security and a Director to the National Office of Combatting Terrorism.

This legislation includes three main points. First, it gives budget authority to those in charge of protecting our Nation's homeland. Second, it provides Congress the oversight we must have over this new office. Finally, this legislation will reorganize government to allow better information-sharing both vertically and horizontally. As we proceed, Congress must be mindful that the safety of the American people is more important than the power struggles of a few agencies or Congressmen.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join in this important effort, move beyond turf battles, and do what is right for the American people.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CULBERSON). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Any record votes on postponed questions will be taken after debate has concluded on all motions to suspend the rules, but not before 6:30 p.m. today.

SENSE OF HOUSE ON IMPROVING MEN'S HEALTH

Mr. FOSSELLA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 438) expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that improving men's health through fitness and the reduction of obesity should be a priority.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 438

Whereas the Surgeon General of the Public Health Service has identified obesity as a major health problem;

Whereas 61 percent of adults in the United States are considered overweight or obese, as indicated by a body mass index (the most reliable measure) of 25 or greater;

Whereas 300,000 deaths each year in the United States are associated with being overweight or obese;

Whereas the economic cost of obesity in the United States was about \$177 billion in 2000;

Whereas being overweight or obese puts people at a greater risk of heart disease, certain types of cancer, type 2 diabetes, stroke, arthritis, breathing problems, and depression;

Whereas men who are overweight are 50 percent more likely to have erectile dysfunction and men who are obese are 200 percent more likely to have erectile dysfunction;

Whereas fewer than a third of American adults engage in the recommended level of physical activity, which is 30 minutes, 3 to 4 times a week; and

Whereas the number of overweight and obese children has nearly tripled in the past two decades: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes that being overweight or obese is a major health concern in the United States;

(2) commends and supports the work of all organizations that are taking steps to combat this health problem;

(3) urges all governmental, State, and private organizations to do everything in their power to promote a healthy lifestyle; and

(4) pledges to take proactive steps to intensify its efforts to combat this health problem.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. FOSSELLA) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. FOSSELLA).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. FOSSELLA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on House Resolution 438.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. FOSSELLA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise in support of House Resolution 438 to express the sense of Congress that improving men's health through fitness and reduction of obesity should be a priority. The gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY) is absolutely correct. Obesity is a major health problem for our society. We must help inform the American public about these risks so that they can take corrective actions to make changes in their food consumption and exercise behaviors.

Over 61 percent of U.S. adults are overweight, along with 13 percent of children. Approximately 300,000 American deaths a year are associated with obesity. What is frightening is that this trend is exponentially increasing. Since 1980, obesity among adults has doubled, and overweight children and adolescents have tripled. Americans need to know that being overweight places people at a higher risk for heart disease, cancer and stroke, all top killers in America, in addition to arthritis, breathing problems, and depression. New research has revealed that obesity can lead to Type 2 diabetes in children